

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

[www.mthcs.com.au](http://www.mthcs.com.au)

February 10, 2022



## Welcome back to Early Years

It's been wonderful to welcome back our families and kids to our Early Years programs this past week or two.

There have been lots of new processes and systems to get used to, and all of our staff (like Hannah Allomes (above) are paying extra attention to processes and cleaning to keep everyone safe. Thank you to our families for their patience as we all get used to the new processes - it's been a smooth start to what we expect will be an exciting year of learning and fun.



## Early Years staff step up

Congratulations to our Early Years staff who have taken on further study. Alyssa Woolley (above left) and Jo Grayling are studying to continue building their careers - as well as helping us to improve the quality of our Early Years programs.

Alyssa previously worked with the Manangatang Preschool team as their Kindergarten Inclusion Support worker two days a week. In 2022, she will be working at Ouyen child care and studying her Certificate 3.

Jo previously worked with the Ouyen Preschool team as KIS worker three days a week. This year, she will be working across Underbool Early Learning Centre in a KIS role and Ouyen child care while she continues study.

## Report your RAT

Rapid Antigen Tests are now more readily available, and in more everyday use, with children returning to school and early years.

Please remember if you test positive using a rapid antigen test:

- You are a case
- You must isolate for 7 days and follow the checklist for cases
- You must report your result
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Check all the guidance and find the links at the Department of Health website:  
[www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au)

## MTHCS receives carers funding

We are excited to announce that MTHCS will receive \$19,200 in funding, which will go towards helping unpaid carers receive additional respite, employment and training opportunities, supporting their vital roles of caring for vulnerable loved ones during the pandemic.

Across Victoria, including right here in our region, more than 726,000 carers give their time and effort to look after a family member or friend who needs them, whether due to chronic disease, mental illness, disability or old age. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting project!

## Need a GP appointment?

Our GPs are currently very heavily booked. Please understand that everyone is under pressure and everyone needs to be triaged appropriately.

If you are unwell and need an appointment, or if you are needing repeat prescriptions please contact the clinic - but please understand there can be a wait. Sometimes appointments are not available immediately under the triage process so please be kind if arrangements cannot be made to your expectations.

## Kids Vaccination

We have had a fantastic response to our kids COVID-19 vaccination clinics in all of our communities - please book in your children if you have not already done so.

MTHCS medical clinics are supporting with vaccination roll out. Please contact the clinic for information about how to get a vaccination. The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has made new recommendations for adolescents aged 16-17 years - the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is recommended as a booster dose for this age group, from 3 months after receiving their last primary dose.

## If you take a break, don't let your guard down..

One of the risk times for COVID-19 spread is when we take our masks off for a cuppa or a meal break with other people in the workplace or socially.

Please remain vigilant.

Grab a cuppa and enjoy it outside if you can - and if you stay indoors, please ensure you socially distance at all times.

## Employment opportunities Mental Health Clinician

**(Salary to be negotiated)**

The Mental Health Clinician will work across the catchment and within the Ouyen, Murrayville and Manangatang P12 colleges. The Mental Health Clinician will also provide community mental health support.

The successful applicant requires a tertiary qualification (accredited in mental health) in either Psychology, Social Work, Nursing or Occupational Therapy or relevant discipline. This position has been created through the partnership between DET and MTHCS and the Clinician will work within the Department of Education (DET) Mental Health Practitioners Initiative Guidelines.

MTHCS is an equal opportunity employer. Visit [www.mthcs.vic.gov.au/employment](http://www.mthcs.vic.gov.au/employment) for more information and other positions.

**To apply:** provide your resume with cover letter to [payroll@mthcs.vic.gov.au](mailto:payroll@mthcs.vic.gov.au) or People & Culture, PO Box 130, Ouyen 3490.